

## REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-19 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1 and 19 are in independent form. Favorable consideration is hereby requested.

The Office Action rejected Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,105,650 (Manusch '650); rejected Claims 2, 3, 9 and 15 as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Manusch '650; rejected Claims 6, 14, 17 and 18 as obvious over Manusch '650 in view of Kobayashi (JP11-157290); and rejected Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Manusch '650 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,462,633 (Manusch '633). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Applicant notes that Claim 1 is patentable over Manusch '650 at least because Claim 1 includes the element directed to the second application edge projecting from the lower longitudinal side of the application member. The Examiner states in the Office Action that Manusch '650 discloses a "... second application edge application edge (Figure 2, application toe 4b) [that] projects from the lower longitudinal side of the application member" and refers to column 6, lines 32-61 to support this assertion. Applicant submits that this section of the Manusch '650 specification states that "... two application feet 3a and 3b [are] separated by an empty space 18 ...." Consequently, Applicant submits that this section of the Manusch '650 specification would not teach or suggest "a second application edge projecting *from* the lower longitudinal side of the application member," as recited in Claim 1. Accordingly, at least for this reason, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is patentable over the Manusch '650 reference.

The other rejected claims in this application depend from Claim 1 discussed above, and, therefore, are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

Applicant further submits that new Claim 27 includes the same features as recited in Claim 1 and is therefore patentable over the cited prior art at least for the reasons described above. Claim 27 is also patentable over the cited prior art because it includes a feature directed to the first application edge, the second application edge and the application member

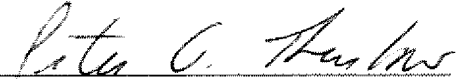
being integral to each other, the recitation "integral" having a meaning to someone of ordinary skill in the art to include "being formed as a unit with another part."

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office at the phone number below. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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